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EXAMINER

AMINI, JAVID A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2672

DATE MAILED: 01/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/820,552

Applicant(s)

HIGGINS ET AL.

Examiner

Javid A Amini

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 July 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed July 23, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant on page 8 lines 5-12 discloses that claim 9 was inadvertently listed on page 2. Examiner's reply: Examiner confirmed the argument on page 2 of previous office action (it should be shown as "Claims 1-8 and 10-20 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)").

Applicant on the same page lines 13-22 argues that the Examiner has not demonstrated a prima facie case of anticipation. Examiner's reply: on the subject of {TO ANTICIPATE A CLAIM, THE REFERENCE MUST TEACH EVERY ELEMENT OF THE CLAIM} in the MPEP 2131 [R-1]: "A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference."

Examiner's observation of claim 1's elements:

Claim 1, line 1: A method of manipulating a map, comprising:

Observation: Tamano in fig. 1 illustrates a residence map that is one example of the first image information 1. And Tamano in col. 4 lines 6-25 teaches clearly a method of manipulating a map.

Claim1, line 2: selecting a boundary of a geographic region in a first map:

Observation: Tamano in fig. 3 illustrates first and second images also selecting a boundary indicated by X1' and Y1'.

Claim 1, lines 3-4: Converting the boundary in the selected geographic region of the first map into a corresponding boundary in a second map:

Observation: Tamano in fig. 3 illustrates first and second images also converting the boundary of X1' and Y1' into second image X2'' and Y2'.

Claim 1, lines 5-7: upon selecting the boundary, simultaneously configuring the boundary in the first map for displaying in a first area of a display and configuring the corresponding boundary in the second map for display in a second area of the display:

Observation: Tamano in col. 8 lines 34-53 teaches clearly the elements in this part of the claim. Tamano discloses that is possible to simultaneously choose a part in the first image information 1 and a part in the second image information 2 so that these parts can be linked to each other.

Applicant on page 9 lines 8-19 discloses some parameters, which are not claimed in claim 1.

Examiner's suggestion: Applicant should be incorporating these parameters into claim 1.

Applicant on page 9 lines 20-23 and on page 10 lines 1-9 argues similar subject matter as mentioned under Examiner's observation.

Applicant on page 10 lines 13-21 argues similar subject matter as mentioned under Examiner's observation.

Applicant on page 11 lines 12-23 argues the references do not teach the elements in claim 9.

Examiner's reply: The only parameters, which are not covered by the reference Tamano, are as follows: plurality longitude coordinates and a plurality of latitude coordinates. The reference DeLorme's invention relates to a new system for correlation and coordination of spatially related data between digital electronic media such as transitory computer displays or other computer outputs. The geographically related data are correlated and coordinated internally by a computer according to the DeLorme's invention with reference to a common geographical coordinate

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system such as the standard latitude/longitude location coordinate system. Applicant on the same page disagrees with the Examiner's alleged motivation to combine the two references.

Examiner's reply: Tamano in col. 1 lines 57-67 clearly discloses different uses of a plurality of kinds of maps, however Tamano's invention covers two kind of maps see fig. 4, and these maps are used for a resident map. This concept can be used for the roads or railway tracks, facilities or buildings such as railway stations, airports and ports, and topography such as mountains, rivers, lakes, marshes or seas. Large-scale maps (that is enlarged) further represent smaller objects such as: telegraph poles, signposts, signals, roadside trees and the like. Maps for specific uses also describe underground-buried facilities, which are objects such as water pipes, gas pipes or sewers see col. 4, lines 6-19. A person skill in the art would have known that two numbers--its latitude and its longitude, describe any location on Earth. Tamano discloses maps of different locations see above paragraph. But Tamano does not explicitly specify the use of a plurality longitude coordinates and a plurality of latitude coordinates, therefore Examiner used the second reference DeLorme to cover the mentioned coordinates by adding the database (it can be a CD, Disk, Tape or a hard Drive) of loc/objects into Tamano's fig. 2 for example under item 4 or by using a bi-directional/unidirectional links under item 6 to the DeLorme's information that can be stored in a separate computer in a different area.

Examiner's suggestion: Applicant should be amending the claim's language to specify explicitly toward the invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-8 and 10-20 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tamano et al. (herein after referred as a Tamano U.S. patent number of 6032157).

1. Claim 1,

As per claim 1, “selecting a boundary of a geographic region in a first map”, Tamano in figs. 3-5 illustrates the limitation of the claim language. Applicant claims that “Converting the boundary in the selected geographic region of the first map into a corresponding boundary in a second map”, Tamano in col. 2, lines 40-66 discloses that Image information linked with attribute information is hereinafter called first image information, and image information which approximately positionally corresponds to the first image information is called second image information and is not linked to the attribute information. Specifically, an object contained in the second image information is used as a key, and the attribute information linked with the first image information is retrieved by inputting a correspondence between the second image information and the first image information via the key, i.e. by selecting an object in the second image information. “upon selecting the boundary, simultaneously configuring the boundary in the first map for displaying in a first area of a display and configuring the corresponding boundary in the second map for display in a second area of the display”, Tamano in col. 8 lines

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34-54 and also in figs. 10 and 11 illustrates it is possible to simultaneously choose a part in the first image information 1 and a part in the second image information 2 so that these parts can be linked to each other, an efficient retrieval is realized. Figs. 11(a) through 11(e) corresponds to figs. 10(a) through 10(e), respectively.

2. Claims 2-8

In claim 2, “loading the first map”, in claim 3, “comprises loading the second map”, in claims 4 and 5, that “wherein configuring further comprises displaying the first map and the second map”, in claim 6 “further comprising displaying a first region of the first map and a second region of the second map, wherein the first region is substantially similar to the second region”, in claims 7 and 8, “wherein the first map is a georeferenced map”, and “wherein the second map is a georeferenced map”, Tamano in figs. 3-4 illustrates all limitations claimed above.

3. Claims 10, 11 and 12,

“Converting the boundary in the selected geographic region of the first map from a first map coordinate system into an intermediate georeferenced coordinate system”, and “wherein converting further comprises associating a georeferenced coordinate in the first map with a georeferenced coordinate in the second map”, and “wherein converting further comprises converting a georeferenced coordinate from the first map into an internal coordinate in the second map”, the step is inherent because in order to provide the right coordinates, one must convert the results of correlation from XY coordinates to georeferenced coordinate and vice versa. Tamano in figs. 3-5 illustrates the claims language.

4. Claim 13,

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“Further comprising receiving a user input to select a new geographic region in the first map”, the step is inherent because the user must be able to interact with new limitation and add new parameters to georeferenced map. Tamano in cols. 2 and 3 lines 66-67 and 1-14 discloses that there are user choices of display and operation, including: overlying the second image information with the second image information, or vice versa, in display; moving either the displayed first image information or the displayed second image information to correct the overlying relation between the display positions of the first image information and the second image information; and changing the area of overlay, causing new areas of the first image information to overlie the second image information. Accordingly, the attribute information is retrieved in response to inputting of an object choice from the second image information, as if through the inputting the second image information and the attribute information were directly connected to each other., and also see fig. 9 step 2200.

5. Claim 14,

“Further comprising determining a plurality of georeferenced coordinates for the new geographic”, the step is inherent because the user must be able to interact with new limitation and add new parameters to georeferenced map. See also rejection of claim 13.

6. Claim 15,

“Further comprising determining a plurality of georeferenced coordinates for a new boundary in the second map, such that the new boundary coordinate of the second map correspond to a new boundary coordinates in the first map”, the step is inherent because georeferenced coordinates with new limitations will be affecting other maps that are using the coordinates from reference data. See also rejection of claim 13.

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7. Claim 16,

“Further comprising configuring the new boundary of the first map for display”, the step is inherent. See rejection of claim 13.

8. Claim 17,

Further comprising configuring the new boundary of the second map for display, the step is inherent. See also rejection of claim 13.

9. Claim 18,

Selecting a boundary in a geographic region of a first map; converting the boundary in the selected geographic region of the first map into a corresponding boundary in a second map; upon selecting the boundary, simultaneously displaying the boundary from the first map in a first area of a display and displaying the corresponding boundary from the second map in a second area of the display. See rejection of claim 1.

10. Claim 19,

Further comprising: displaying a first region of the first map, and a second region of the second map, wherein the first region is substantially similar to the second region; receiving a user input to select a new boundary in the first map; determining coordinates for the new boundary in the first map; determining coordinates for a new boundary in the second map such that the coordinates for the new boundary in the second map relate to the new boundary in the first map. See rejection of claim 1.

11. Claim 20,

Selecting a boundary of a geographic region in a first map; converting the boundary into a corresponding boundary in a second map; upon selecting the boundary, simultaneously

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displaying the boundary in the first map in a first area of a display and displaying the corresponding boundary in the second map in a second area of the display. See rejection of claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 9, and 21-23 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tamano, and further in view of Delorme et al (hereinafter referred as a Delorme U.S. patent number 5,848,373.

12. Claim 9,

As per claim 9, “wherein each of said boundaries is associated with a plurality longitude coordinates and a plurality of latitude coordinates”, Tamano does explicitly specify the plurality of longitude and latitude coordinates. However, Delorme in col. 4, lines 39-53 discloses that the palms system of the invention adds a computer dimension to the printed maps and is therefore intended to provide intelligent printed maps. The computer correlates, coordinates, and communicates information in a common geographical coordinate system such as the latitude/longitude coordinate system. An object of the invention is to provide direct visual display of intelligent map location information on grid quadrangles of a PDA/PC/EC display for correlation with printed maps depicting geographical areas coinciding with the geographical areas of the grid quadrangles. Coordination and correlation of spatially related data by the user

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is accomplished intuitively without requiring the user to make any latitude and longitude measurements or UTM determinations or any mathematical calculations whatever. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Delorme into Tamano in order to modify the fig. 2 of Tamano by incorporating a second database of Delorme that displays selected loc/objects of the second database on the grid quadrangles of the second scale grid presented on the CAMLS PDA/PC/EC display for coordinating and correlating locations on the computer display with locations on corresponding printed maps.

13. Claims 21-23,

The rejection of claim 1 applies to the rejection of claims 21-23. The only element that Tamano does not explicitly specify is the transparency option in claims 21-23, lines 3, 5 and 6 respectively. However, the reference Delorme in col. 53 lines 9-23 teaches that the CAMLS software invention provides integrated printed maps and digital displays in which loc/objects sorted by type are printed onto Mylar or other transparent media.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

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will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

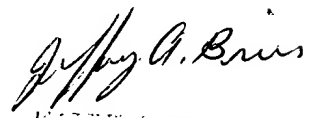
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javid A Amini whose telephone number is 703-605-4248. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Razavi can be reached on 703-305-4713. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Javid A Amini
Examiner
Art Unit 2672

Javid Amini


JEFFREY A. BRUNS
PRIMARY EXAMINER